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Tarek N. Fahmi
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP
7th Floor
12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90025

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CAO H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 02/24/2004

9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/927,250

Applicant(s)

Little

Examiner
Cao (Kevin) Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Dec 5, 2003
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bach et al. (US Patent No. 6,141,660).

Regarding claim 1, Bach discloses a method, comprising: defining a set of commands to be used with a command line interface (CLI), each command in the set of commands specifying an action to be performed in a system [..the class specifications are generated using a command line interface of a class definition tool; see col. 4, lines 37-60]; defining a set of system interfaces including objects and methods, wherein each action specified in the command is associated with an object and a method, the object and the method performing semantics required by the command [..when entering the commands the rules are used to ensure proper syntax and command order; see col. 17, lines 4-67]; and creating a CLI description file for each command in the set of commands, the CLI description file mapping the command with the action and the associated objects and the methods [see col. 8, lines 1-23 and col. 12, lines 1-19).

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Regarding claim 2, Bach discloses a method wherein defining the set of commands comprises defining keywords, arguments, input and output requirements for each command [a class definer function uses database specification in the catalog and operator input to generate input and output forms for display.. see col. 1-43].

Regarding claim 3, Bach discloses wherein defining the keywords and the arguments for each command comprises defining help texts for the keywords and for the arguments [the object builds segment search argument list based on the values within the query string..see col. 8, lines 24-67].

Regarding claim 4, Bach discloses wherein defining the input requirements comprises defining an argument set for the command, and wherein defining the output requirements comprises defining a display format to display a result responsive to executing the command (see col. 10, lines 28-67).

Regarding claim 5, Bach discloses wherein the argument set is associated with the action of the command, and wherein the argument set is included in an input string specified with the command, the argument set comprising zero or more arguments (see col. 11, lines 25-67).

Regarding claim 6, Bach discloses wherein an argument type is selected for each argument, and wherein each argument type is implemented as a Java class (see col. 5, lines 35-45).

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Regarding claim 7, Bach discloses wherein defining a set of interfaces including objects and methods comprises defining a Java class for the action, the Java class for the action naming the object associated with the action and having methods that can be invoked when performing the action (see col. 5, lines 46-64).

Regarding claim 8, Bach discloses further comprising registering the object with the system such that when the action is performed, the methods are invoked (see col. 10, lines 27-67).

Regarding claims 9 and 10, Bach discloses wherein the CLI description file is created using a generalized markup language; and wherein the generalized markup language is Extensible Markup Language (XML) (see col. 14, lines 3-59).

Regarding claim 11, Bach discloses compiling the CLI description file to generate a run time module (see col. 17, lines 17-67).

Regarding claim 12, Bach discloses a computer readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions which are executable by a digital processing system, and which, when executed by the digital processing system, cause the system to perform a method comprising defining a set of commands to be used with a command line interface (CLI), each command in the set of commands specifying an action to be performed in a system; defining a set of interfaces including objects and methods, wherein each action specified in the command is associated with an object and a method, the object and the method performing semantics required by the

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command; and creating a CLI description file for each command in the set of commands, the CLI description file mapping the command with the action and the associated objects and the methods (see col. 6, lines 8-61 and figures 2-4).

As claims 13-22 are analyzed as previously discussed with respected to claims 2-11 above.

Regarding claim 23, Bach discloses a method comprising defining a set of commands to be used with a command line interface (CLI); defining keywords, arguments, input and output requirements for each command; each command in the set of commands specifying an action to be performed in a system; defining a set of interfaces including objects and methods, wherein each action specified by the command is associated with an object and a method, the object and the method performing semantics required by the command (see col. 20, lines 20-51); creating a CLI description file for each command in the set of commands, the CLI description file mapping the command with the action and the associated objects and the methods, wherein the CLI description file is created using Extensible Markup Language (XML); and compiling the CLI description file to create a run time module (see col. 14, lines 1-29-67 and figures 4-6A).

As claims 24-29 are analyzed as previously discussed with respected to claims 2-11 above.

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Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed on 12/05/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

On page 3 of the Remarks, Applicant argues that the Bach does not teach or suggest "defining a set of commands to be used with a command line interface (CLI); each command in the set of commands specifying an action to be performed in a system." However, the limitations as claimed set forth to reply upon "The page includes four buttons, including the Back, Next, Done, and Help buttons, which perform the following functions: (1) return to the previous step by selecting the Back button; (2) proceed to the next step by selecting the Next button; (3) terminate the Wizard by selecting the Done button; and (4) display "Help" information by selecting the Help button. After selecting the Next button, the "Choose Project" page of FIG. 6B is displayed on the monitor of the client computer 100. A project is a folder or container within the catalog 404 for organizing related files. The user could have a project for each target database, each application, or one project for all files. Generally, the user should use multiple projects to avoid conflicts between duplicate names in the DBDs or COBOL copylibs. The page includes eight buttons, including the Open previous project, Open existing project, Create new project, Delete project, Back, Next, Done, and Help buttons, which perform the following functions: (1) open a previous project; (2) open an existing project; (3) create a new project; (4) delete a project; (5) return to the previous step by selecting the Back button; (6) proceed to the next step by selecting the Next button; (6) terminate the Wizard by selecting the Done button;

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and (8) display "Help" information by selecting the Help button. After selecting the Next button, the "Define Project" page of FIG. 6C is displayed on the monitor of the client computer 100.

This page is used by the user to define the project name, project directory, and project description. The project name is any name used to identify the project; the project directory is a subdirectory where the files for the project are gathered; and the project description is any text chosen by the user, wherein the text is added to the top of the generated class source code. The page includes three fields for specifying the project name, project directory, and project description, and four buttons, including the Back, Next, Done, and Help buttons, which perform the following functions: (1) return to the previous step by selecting the Back button; (2) proceed to the next step by selecting the Next button; (3) terminate the Wizard 402 by selecting the Done button; and (4) display "Help" information by selecting the Help button." see Bach.

On page 4 of the Remarks, Applicant argues that the Bach does not teach or suggest "wherein each action specified in the command is associated with an object and a method, the object and the method performing semantics required by the command." However, the limitations as claimed set forth to reply upon "The CDT 400 executes under the control of the operating system on the client computer 100, interacts with an operator via a Graphical User Interface (GUI) 402 and/or a Command Line Interface (CLI) 403, and stores information in a catalog 404. To minimize the need for writing non-object-oriented code to access the database 112, the object classes and methods used in the objects framework 108 are generated by the CDT 400. Generally, these classes and methods are typically generated as C++ source code, although

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other programming languages could be used as well. Using the object framework 108 as its runtime component, the application program 106 instantiates objects for these classes and directs the retrieval of data from the database 112 into the instantiated objects. A database definer function 406 of the CDT 400 captures information from a database description (500) and the record layout for the database 112 (502), and associates them to one another to define a database specification (504), which is subsequently stored in the catalog 404. The database descriptions and record layouts accessed by the CDT 400 are typically located on a host system, e.g., the server computer 102, and downloaded to the client computer 100. The database description includes information about the structure of the segments in the database 112 and the record layouts include formatting information for the records in the database. Generally, the database definer function 406 can either be done automatically by the CDT 400 or in response to commands from a Database Administrator (DBA). The resulting database specification contains the relevant information extracted from the database description and the record layout, and links the database description and record layout together. The database definer function 406 may further perform an augment function that captures additional information to assist in defining the database specification. A class definer function 408 of the CDT 400 uses the database specification in the catalog 404 and operator input to generate class definitions for the various objects (506), which are then stored in the catalog 404. The class definer function 408 may further perform an augment function that captures additional information to assist in generating the class definitions and to constrain the use of the resulting objects." see Bach.

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On page 4 of the Remarks, Applicant argues that the Bach does not teach or suggest “creating a CLI description file for each command in the set of commands, the CLI description file mapping the command with the action and the associated objects and the methods.” However, the limitations as claimed set forth to reply upon “The class specifications are generated using a command line interface of a class definition tool. A database description and a record layout associated with the hierarchical database are captured and associated to define a specification for the database. Class definitions are then generated from the database specification, wherein the class definitions are instantiated as objects in the objects framework that encapsulate data retrieved from the database. A method for generating class specifications for an object-oriented application program that accesses a hierarchical database. The class specifications are generated using a command line interface of a class definition tool. The class definition tool parses database files and generates class definitions for objects that encapsulate or wrapper data retrieved from the database. The class definition tool also automatically generates input forms and output pages (for example, HTML or XML forms and pages) that are displayed on web browsers that interact with the application program and objects framework.” see Bach

Accordingly, the claimed invention as represented in the claims do not represent a patentable distinction over the art of record.

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Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure (See PTO-892).

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Response

5. Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. If applicant desires to fax a response, (703) 308-9051 may be used for formal communications or (703) 305-9724 for informal or draft communications.

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Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for informal facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA. Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Inquires

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cao (Kevin) Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Cabeca, can be reached on (703) 308-3116. The fax number for this group is (703) 746-7239.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.


CAO (KEVIN) NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

February 04, 2004